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ANDOVER TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

1925

Heath House,
Andover.

September 1926.

To the Mayor & Corporation of the Borough of Andover.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1925, copies of which have been forwarded to the Ministry of Health and the County Council.

NATURAL & SOCIAL CONDITIONS of the AREA.

Area (in acres) - 8664

Population - Census 1921 - 8539 Estimated 1925 - 8575

General characters of the Area - Outcrop of the chalk bed; springs issuing from the permanent source of the River Anton, which runs through the centre of the town.

Soil - Loamy gravel, overlying chalk, except in the river valley, where alluvial soil overlies the river gravel and chalk.

Levels - The district comprises numerous spurs from a table-land, some 300 to 500 feet above mean sea level, into the Anton Valley. The level of the river at Andover is about 190 feet above sea level.

Situation of Urban parts. - By far the largest portion of the Borough is Rural, and comprises five fairly defined villages. The market town of Andover is situated near the Southern extremity of the Borough.

Number of Inhabited Houses (1921) - 1,997

do. do. do. (1925) - 2,180

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) - 1,997

Rateable value - £41,709

Sum represented by a penny rate - £124.

OCCUPATIONS - These include Agriculture, Iron Foundries, Railways, Shop-keeping, Gas Works, Milling, Building, Water-cress growing, Timber Merchants, and Motor Works. There is also a large Institution of discharged disabled men at Enham Village Centre, part of which is in the Borough.

VITAL STATICS -

		Total	M.	F.		
Births	(Legitimate	167	97	70	)	Birth Rate 20.2
	(Illegitimate	6	3	3		
Deaths		113	52	61		Death Rate 13.2

Death Rate	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>
	11.1	9.4	8.2	11.9
Birth Rate	21.2	19.8	21.3	19.9

Number of women dying in, or in (From Sepsis 2
 consequence of child-birth (" other causes 1

Deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 births:-

Legitimate 47.9 - Illegitimate 333.3 Total 381.2

Deaths from Measles (all ages) nil
 " " Whooping Cough " nil
 " " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) 1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total cases notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total deaths.</u>
Diphtheria	2	2	nil
Scarlet Fever	14	8	nil
Pneumonia	30	2	6
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	nil	1
Erysipelas	1	nil	nil
Puerperal Fever	2	nil	2

	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>
Diphtheria	5	2	12	3
Scarlet Fever	11	1	-	4
Pneumonia	-	6	6	18
Erysipelas	-	2	3	1
Enteric	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	1	2	-	-
Anterior Poleomyelitis	-	4	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	1	6	1

TUBERCULOSIS

<u>Age periods</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
0 nil	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-
5	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
20	2	1	-	1	1	1	-	-
25	3	4	-	-	-	3	-	-
35	4	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	10	7	3	5	1	6	1	-

	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>
Pulmonary	4	8	10	9
Non-Pulmonary	2	1	7	3
Deaths	10	4	5	9

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

<u>Notified</u>	<u>Cases</u>		
	<u>Cases Treated</u>		
	<u>At Home</u>	<u>In Hospital</u>	<u>Vision unimpaired</u>
2	2	nil	2

The AMOUNT of POOR LAW RELIEF. - £1067. 18. -

GENERAL PROVISION of HEALTH SERVICES in AREA.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

- (1) Tuberculosis - Chandlers Ford with accommodation for 25 adults and 20 children - supported wholly by the County Council.
- (2) Maternity - Royal County Hospital, Winchester - A certain number of beds in this hospital are allotted to the County Council.
- (3) Childrens - No special ward provided in the local hospital, but cases may be sent when necessary to the Childrens' ward at the Royal County Hospital, Winchester.
A Childrens' Ward will be provided in the new Local Hospital.
- (4) Fever - Arrangements have been made with the R.D.C. whereby patients suffering from infectious diseases are admitted to the Isolation Hospital at Weyhill.
- (5) Small Pox - No local Small-pox hospital, but the County Council have their own.
- (6) Other Hospitals - The Andover Cottage Hospital situated in the Junction Road, Andover, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from centre of the town - Accommodation - Male 7, Female 7; supported by voluntary contributions and donations, also by a scheme of insurance for a small sum per week which entitles the contributor to free treatment and maintenance should the necessity arise. A new Memorial Hospital situated in the Charlton Road, about one mile from the centre of the town, is in course of erection and will be opened in 1926.
The infirmary usually makes provision for homeless and illegitimate children and unmarried mothers.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

- (a) For infectious cases - a horse-drawn ambulance (which belongs to the Rural District Council) is stationed at Weyhill. The driver and horse are hired in Andover and make the journey to Weyhill and return again to pick up the case. The whole method is very primitive, very slow, and the ambulance antiquated.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN 1951

Health services are provided by the local authority or by the County Council.

(1) General - The County Council has the responsibility for the health services and is required to provide them.

General

(2) General - The County Council has the responsibility for the health services and is required to provide them.

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(3) General - The County Council has the responsibility for the health services and is required to provide them.

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(4) General - The County Council has the responsibility for the health services and is required to provide them.

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(5) General - The County Council has the responsibility for the health services and is required to provide them.

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(6) General - The County Council has the responsibility for the health services and is required to provide them.

(7) General - The County Council has the responsibility for the health services and is required to provide them.

(8) General - The County Council has the responsibility for the health services and is required to provide them.

General

General Provisions

(1) General - The County Council has the responsibility for the health services and is required to provide them.

General

- (b) For non-infectious cases - The St. John's Ambulance Society have recently provided the town with a Ford motor ambulance, capable of accommodating two stretcher cases - This year has already shown how much need there was for one, both in the number of cases taken to Hospital to Andover, Salisbury, Winchester and London. **It has been** of great service in cases of street accidents - Provision has been made whereby on informing the Police Station the ambulance can be obtained at very short notice from Messrs Machlins in Bridge Street who provide the driver and take care of the machine.

CLINICS & TREATMENT CENTRES - Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at Clare House provided and maintained by the County Council.

School clinics by the County Council.

Tuberculosis at Clare House, County Council. -

Venerial Diseases at Winchester Hospital, County Council.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

- (a) General - There is an ample number of nurses in the District in normal circumstances - Two District nurses are resident in the town, supported by contributions and weekly payments.
- (b) For infectious diseases. Measles - these are usually undertaken by the parents or relatives. No special nurses for this work - if necessary, arrangements would be made.

MIDWIVES. There are 11 midwives practising in the district.

LABORATORY WORK. Antitoxin supplied - Nil.

Arrangement has been made with the Rural District Council whereby all cases admitted to their Institution receive the necessary treatment; this includes antitoxin etc.

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ADOPTIVE ACTS in FORCE Within the BOROUGH.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act 1889.

" " (Prevention) Act 1890.

Public Health Act Amendment Act 1890 - part 3.

Private Street Works Act 1892.

Public Libraries Act 1892.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1907 - parts 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 9 and certain sections in parts 4 and 10 subject to the conditions in the Schedule of the order.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.Public Health Staff.

Dr. L.E.A.B.Farr, Medical Officer of Health.

Mr R.W.Knapp, Inspector of Nuisances.

Mr. H.J.Annett, Shop Inspector.

The above are part time officers, and grants made under the Public Health Act.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of about six-sevenths of the population of the Borough is derived from the Town well and Waterworks at Millway Road. To the greater bulk of the consumers the supply is continuous, gravitating from the service reservoir placed at the well-head. The remainder are supplied intermittently by direct pumping through the mains into domestic storage cisterns. In the past some deficiency has been experienced during the height of summer by the latter section of consumers, and the Corporation are taking steps to ameliorate this condition. In the Rural portions of the Borough the supply is derived from wells sunk into the chalk strata. During the year the mains were tapped for 84 new services, 79 of which were for domestic supply.

RIVER-STREAMS

The Anton river flowing through the Town is dammed at three points for Mill power. This maintains the ground water at a higher level than is desirable, and there is no doubt that dwellings adjacent to it would be much healthier for occupation if such mill-dams did not exist. Not only water is retarded by such dams, but the decomposing rubbish which a river inevitably receives from buildings and gardens on its banks. The river is unpolluted by sewage.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

The Leigh Road sewer was satisfactorily completed during 1925. No other extension of sewers has been made during the year. The sewerage system has been kept clean by flushing, and all new drains have been tested by smoke before being covered.

The Sewage Disposal Works have continuously delivered a good effluent, according to the analysis of samples submitted to the County Analyst. In the Rural portions of the Borough the conservancy system finds general favour.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The calculated number of closets of every type existing in the Borough on 31st. December 1925 is as follows:-

Fresh Water flushed water closets	-	1805
Slop Water do. do.	-	71
Earth pail closets		384
Privies		138

SCAVENGING.

There is a weekly removal of house refuse from receptacles placed on the street kerb, and from a very few fixed receptacles. Trade refuse is also removed for a small charge per load. The bulk of refuse collected is deposited on convenient dumping grounds and destroyed by fire.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

The following is a classified summary of Inspections made,
Action taken, and results.

URBAN DISTRICT of the BOROUGH of ANDOVER.

SUMMARY of Sanitary Work done in the Inspector of Nuisances
Department during the year 1925.

Number of Abatement Notices Nuisances abated after notice
by

		Inspection & Defects Observations found. made.	Informal by In- spector	Formal by Ar- bitrator	Inspector	Authorit
Dwelling- houses & Schools	(Foul Conditions (Structural Defects (Overcrowding (Unfit for habitation	53	48	5	48	5
	Lodging Houses	-	-	-	-	-
	Cowsheds	-	-	-	-	-
	Dairies & Milkshops	-	-	-	-	-
	Bakehouses	-	-	-	-	-
	Slaughterhouses	9	9	-	9	-
	Canal Boats	-	-	-	-	-
	Ash Pits & Privies	-	-	-	-	-
	Deposits of refuse) & Manure)	5	5	-	5	-
	Water Closets	15	15	-	15	-
House Drainage	(Defective Traps (No disconnection Other faults	- - 13	- - 13	- - -	- - 13	- - -
	Water Supply	-	-	-	-	-
	Pig Sties	-	-	-	-	-
	Animals improperly) kept)	7	7	-	7	-
	Offensive Trades	-	-	-	-	-
	Smoke Nuisances	-	-	-	-	-
	Other Nuisances	-	-	-	-	-
Inspection & Observations made 131.		102	97	5	97	5

PRECAUTIONS against INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Complaints received	- 8	Bedding disinfected	- Nil
Unwholesome food condemned (fish)	- Nil	Houses disinfected after infectious disease.	- 21
Unwholesome meat seized	- 1 Lot	Schools disinfected	- 1

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action has been found necessary with respect to any nuisance from smoke. In this connection however it may be mentioned that the use of gas for domestic cooking purposes has made great headway in Andover during recent years.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary arrangements of schools in the District and their condition is generally good. There are one or two instances of the continuous trough flushed closet in use, for which it would be desirable in the near future to substitute separate pans.

HOUSING.

To meet the housing congestion due to suspended building operations during the great war, the Local Authority launched three "private-owners-subsidy" schemes under the Housing Act of 1923 comprising 123 houses. Forty-one of these houses were completed during the year 1925. Nine other dwellings have been erected by private persons without such assistance. The congestion is not yet wholly relieved, as the Council's waiting list of Applicants for houses testifies. A fourth subsidy scheme for private builders, and also a house building scheme by the Local Authority is therefore being prosecuted with assistance under the same Act.

GENERAL & MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION.

Steady pressure is continuously being exerted by the Local Authority towards the repair of dilapidated and insanitary houses. Cases of infectious disease which cannot be properly isolated in the home, are sent to the Rural District Council's Isolation Hospital, by arrangement. Eleven cases, comprising Scarlet Fever, and Diphtheria, were so isolated successfully during the year 1925.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Fifty-three houses were inspected for defects, which were recorded, none were found entirely unfit for human habitation, but defects were found in every case. In 48 cases the defects were remedied

in consequence of informal notice, and in five other cases notices were given by the Local Authority under the Public Health Acts, and proceedings taken, resulting in repairs being executed by the owners.

MEAT & FOOD INSPECTION.

From time to time, meat exposed for sale in shops and market place has been inspected. Since the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924 came into force, little meat has been exposed for sale in the open market place. A butcher in one instance voluntarily destroyed some meat considered to be unfit for human consumption.

There are no public slaughterhouses in the District.

The number of private slaughterhouses is as follows:-

	IN 1920	IN JANUARY 1925	IN DECEMBER 1925
Registered	3	3	3
Licensed	1	2	3
Total	4	5	6

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES.

In December 1925 the District was inspected for the purpose of tabulating a correct list of workshops, the existing list being somewhat obsolete. No serious nuisances or contravention of the Workshops Regulations were discovered during this work of Inspection.

In submitting the above Report I must acknowledge the great assistance I have received from Mr Knapp.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

Lawrance Farr,

Medical Officer of Health,

Andover Urban District.

